

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Claims 10-21 are pending in the application with the present amendments. In the Office Action, claims 10-18 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being obvious over U.S. Patent No. 6,138,178 to Watanabe ("Watanabe") in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,832,379 to Zeryck et al. ("Zeryck"). For the reasons set forth below, it is respectfully submitted that the presently pending claims overcome the rejections over *Watanabe* and *Zeryck*. Reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejections are respectfully requested.

As amended herein, claim 10 recites an electronic device which is adapted to be detachably mounted to main equipment for providing optional data to the main equipment and permitting optional functions to be executed. As newly amended herein, claim 10 now recites that the electronic device includes an interface unit in form of a memory card interface for transfer of data from the electronic device to the main equipment and from the main equipment to the electronic device. The electronic device includes an output unit which is operable, upon selecting one of a plurality of functions, to output a portion of software data containing driver data for the selected function to the main equipment through the interface unit, for installation of the driver data in the main equipment to permit the selected function to be executed using the electronic device.

Such electronic device as recited in claim 10 is neither taught nor suggested by the combination of *Watanabe* and *Zeryck*. *Watanabe* merely describes an electronic device which stores driver software which corresponds to respective operating systems and versions thereof (col. 6, lns. 39-50). *Watanabe* neither teaches nor suggests that the electronic device stores software data including a plurality of portions each containing

driver data for a respective one of a plurality of *separately selectable functions*. *Watanabe* merely describes a device which stores a plurality of different drivers for permitting the device (e.g., printer or digital camera) to be used with one of several different types of operating systems, depending on the computer with which the device is to be used. Nor does *Watanabe* teach or suggest the selection of one of a plurality of functions and outputting driver data for the selected function for installation of the driver data in the main equipment. In addition, *Watanabe* neither teaches nor suggests an interface unit in form of a memory card interface for transfer of data from the electronic device to the main equipment and from the main equipment to the electronic device. Through such interface unit, the output unit is operable to output driver data for the selected function for installation of the driver data in the main equipment.

Zeryck does not provide the teachings which *Watanabe* lacks with respect to the presently claimed invention. *Zeryck* merely describes a layered device driver system which permits device drivers to be installed or removed. (See col. 10, lns. 25-43). *Zeryck* neither teaches nor suggests an *electronic device, adapted to be detachably mounted to main equipment*, which stores software data including a plurality of portions each containing driver data for a respective one of a plurality of separately selectable functions. *Zeryck* merely describes installation and removal of device drivers. In addition, *Zeryck* neither teaches nor suggests an electronic device having an interface unit in form of a memory card interface. In combination, *Watanabe* and *Zeryck* neither teach nor suggest storage and transfer of driver data from a detachably mounted device through an interface unit in form of a memory card interface to main equipment for installation of the driver data

in the main equipment to permit a selected function to be executed using the electronic device.

Claims 13 and 16, which contain similar recitations, are also distinguished over *Watanabe* and *Zeryck* for the reasons discussed above.

Moreover, the recitations of claim 11 are neither taught nor suggested by the combination of *Watanabe* and *Zeryck*. As recited in claim 11, the software data are stored in the data memory unit using a file format. However, no such description appears in *Watanabe*. See col. 6, lns. 51-59. It is respectfully submitted that the cited passages of *Watanabe* at col. 7, lns. 7-42; col. 2, lns. 14-17; and col. 6, lns. 55-60 and the references to the drawings do not refer to a file format, or to files. In addition, the cited passage of *Zeryck* at col. 9, lns. 45-52 does not refer to a file format, or to files. Similar recitations are also found in claims 14 and 17.

In addition, applicants submit that the combination of *Watanabe* and *Zeryck* neither teaches nor suggests the features of the invention as recited in claims 19, 20 and 21.

Support for the present amendments is provided, inter alia, at paragraphs [0031] and [0040] of the Specification.

In view of the above, each of the presently pending claims in this application is believed to be in immediate condition for allowance. Accordingly, the Examiner is respectfully requested to withdraw the outstanding rejection of the claims and to pass this application to issue. If, however, for any reason the Examiner does not believe that such action can be taken at this time, it is respectfully requested that he telephone applicant's attorney at (908) 654-5000 in order to overcome any additional objections which he might have.

Application No.: 09/925,234

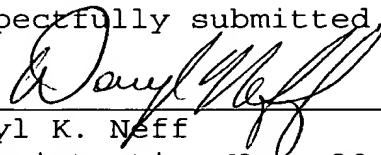
Docket No.: SONYJP 3.0-196

If there are any additional charges in connection with this requested amendment, the Examiner is authorized to charge Deposit Account No. 12-1095 therefor.

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Respectfully submitted,

By



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